financial institutions were aware of the various acquisitions made by the Goenkas in relation to tyre and ancillary intermediary companies of Ceat Tyres Ltd. *viz.* Malayalam Harrison; Bayer India Ltd.; Schrader Scovil Duncan; Phillips Carbon Black; National Standard Duncan, etc.

(b) if so, how was this allowed;

(c) whether MRTP authorities cleared these acquisitions; and

(d) what are the details of the role of the financial institutions in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House to the extent available and permissible under the rules.

Solicitors Retained by LIC

1679. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of the solicitors engaged by the LIC for various purposes and the period for which each of them has been on the panel; and

(b) what are the fees paid to these solicitors in the past three years under various accounts?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) and (b) The following solicitors/firms have been engaged by the LIC for various purposes from time to time. The Corporation has paid the following amounts for professional services in connection with the legal matter handled by them during the last three years:—

Place	Name of Solicitors/Firms	Fee paid (Rs.)
Bombay	M/s. Little & Co.	11,56,579.73
	M/s. Mulla & Mulla & Criagie Blunt & Caroe.	1,09,233.10
	M/s. Ardesir Hormus ji Dinshaw & Co.	81,782.20
	M/s. Matubhai Jamietram & Madan.	85,906.10
	M/s. Pyne & Co.	31,965.00
	M/s. Thakurdas & Madgaonkar.	21,400.00
	M/s. Bhaishankar & Kanga.	2,750.00
	M/s. Shah & Sanghavi	71,064.00
	M/s. Ambubhai Diwanji	15,000.00
	M/s. Pandya & Poonawala	874.00
	M/s. Muzumdar & Co.	600.00
	M/s. J.B. Dadachanji & Co.	14,300.00
	M/s. Amarchand & Mangaldas & Hiralal Shroff & Co.	5,00,000.00
Calcutta	M/s. Fox & Mondal	62,373.25
	M/s. Pyre & Pyne	99,382.40
	M/s. S. N. Sen & Co.	19,914.10
	M/s. A. Ganguly	25,349.32
New Delhi	M/s. J.B. Dadachanji & Co.	2,74,094.27

Services of Amarchand and Mangaldas and Hiralal Shroff and Company utilised by LIC as their Solicitors in the L & T case

1680. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Life Insurance Corporation of India engaged the services of Amarchand and Mangaldas and Hiralal

Shroff and Company as their Solicitors in the L&T case;

(b) if so, whether Government are aware that the said firm has also acted as solicitors to the Ambanis who wanted to have control of the L&T;

(c) whether Government are also aware that two partners of the said firm are directors in the Reliance Group of Companies;

(d) whether it was correct on the part of LIC to appoint a solicitor company which also have accepted briefs from their opponents; and

(e) if so, what action Government propose to take in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Solicitors had themselves disclosed to the financial institutions that they had acted as solicitors to L&T in respect of public issue made by L & T regarding debentures of the aggregate face value of Rs. 820 crores. Institutions were also aware that they had acted for Reliance Industries Ltd. (RIL/Reliance Petro Chemicals Ltd. (RPL) in respect of some other court cases.

(c) and (d) the Solicitors had disclosed to the financial institutions the association of their two partners as directors in 2 of the companies of the Reliance Group. M/s. Amarchand & Mangaldas & Hiralal & Shroff & Co. had been acting for the financial institutions, including LIC for many years in the various matters. At the stage of litigation in the Bombay .High Court and the Supreme Court no conflict of professional duty arose as a result of their Association with L & T/RIL/RPL/ RCFTL. The action of the LIC was accordingly in order.

(e) Does not arise.

Post-Death claims pending with LIC

1681. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise number of post-death claims pending with LIC, how many of them are five years or more old; and

(b) what are the details of staps taken/ proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure the payment of claims of widows at their door steps?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) The number of death claims outstanding with the Life Insurance Corporation of India as at 31st March, 1989 were 14456 out of which 826 death claims were outstanding for more than 2 years which were further reduced as on 28th February, 1990 to 412. LIC does not keep separate statistics of death claims which are outstanding for 5 years or more. The Corporation also does not maintain the statistics of death claims State-wise. However, the zone-wise statistics covering all the States/Union Territories are maintained separately which, as on 31.3.1989 are as under:—

Zonal Office	State/Union Territory covered by Zonal Office	Death Claims outstanding as at 31.3.89	Death Claims outstanding for more than 2 years as at 31.3.1989.	
Northern Zone	Delhi, Rajasthan, Chandigarh, Punjab, Haryana, J&K and Himachal Pradesh.	1857		83